

REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL-SEPTEMBER 27, 2004

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:32 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Blair, Clouette, Haddad, Hawkins, Koehn, Paterson, Paulhus, Schaefer
Absent: Redding

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Clouette seconded to approve the minutes of September 13, 2004, with one spelling correction.

So passed unanimously.

There was a short break in the meeting to wish Carl Schaefer a happy 70th birthday and to share a cake with him.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Mr. Bob Cook, 219 Separatist Road, spoke on the problems created by the parties being held on Hunting Lodge Road specifically at Carriage House Apartments. On September 3, 2004 he returned home late, and found it almost impossible to go down Hunting Lodge Road because of the amount of people who were drunk and walking down the road. He did not feel safe in his car. This issue is not a University/Town issue it is a public safety issue and therefore a Town issue. This has been a long-standing public issue and containment of a crowd is not the answer. He urged the Town Council to identify the problem as a public safety issue and gave potential solutions. The town needs to pass and enforce ordinances on jaywalking, loitering and littering. He felt that state police were not needed to enforce these ordinances just the town police or perhaps town constables. They could fine those persons involved. However, these solutions need to be announced by the media in the local radio stations, newspaper, and the Daily Campus.

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. An Ordinance Regarding the Exemption of Property leased to Charitable, Religious or Nonprofit Organizations

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:45 p.m. No comments Public Hearing closed.

2. Amendment to An Ordinance Regulating the Possession of Alcohol by Minors

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:48 p.m. No comments. Public Hearing closed.

V. OLD BUSINESS

3. An Ordinance Regarding the Exemption of Property leased to Charitable, Religious or Nonprofit Organizations

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded that effective September 27, 2004, to adopt "An Ordinance Regarding the Exemption of Property Leased to Charitable, Religious or Nonprofit Organizations" as presented by staff in its draft dated September 13, 2004, and which ordinance shall become effective 21 days after publication in a newspaper having circulation in the Town of Mansfield.

So passed unanimously.

4. Amendment to An Ordinance Regulating the Possession of Alcohol by Minors

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded that effective September 27, 2004 to amend "An Ordinance Regulating the Possession of Alcohol by Minors" as presented by staff in its draft dated September 13, 2004 and which amendment shall become effective 21 days after publication in a newspaper having circulation in the Town of Mansfield.

Motion so passed Ms. Koehn abstained.

5. University Spring Weekend and Campus/Community Relations

No action taken.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

6. Open Space Acquisition

Mr. Haddad moved and Ms. Blair seconded that effective September 27, 2004, to refer the acquisition of the Morneau property to the Planning and Zoning Commission for review pursuant to Connecticut general Statutes 8-24, and to schedule a public hearing for 7:30 p.m. at the Town Council's regular meeting on October 12, 2004 to solicit public comment on the proposal.

So passed unanimously.

7. MRRA- Amendment to Solid Waste Regulations

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Clouette seconded to recess as the Town Council and convene as the MRRA.

So passed unanimously.

Mr. Schaeffer moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded that effective September 27, 2004, to schedule a public hearing for 7:45 p.m. at the Town Council's regular

meeting on October 12, 2004 to solicit public comment on the proposed amendment to Section A196-6 (L) of the Solid Waste Regulations.

So passed unanimously.

Mr. Haddad moved and Ms. Blair seconded to adjourn as the MRRA and reconvene as the Town Council

So passed unanimously.

8. Presentation on Strategic Planning

Mr. Matt Hart, Assistant Town Manager, gave a presentation to the Council on Strategic Planning.

By consensus the Council requested that the staff prepare a draft proposal.

VII. QUARTERLY REPORTS

- Mr. Haddad moved to table to the next meeting all quarterly reports. Seconded by Ms. Blair.

So passed unanimously

VIII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Mr. Clouette reported on the Committee on the Community Quality of Life. Members are: Mr. Clouette, Mr. Hawkins, Ms. Blair and Mayor Paterson.

The committee has met three times to discuss the quality of life in town and the impact of large off campus parties on residents and property in Mansfield. The committee knows that this is a personal safety issue. They will move forward and look at existing ordinances and how they can be enforced. The committee has drafted 13 strategies on this issue, 8 of which are solely the town's responsibility. Hopefully by the end of October there will be a report given to the Council. Sean Cox, our Resident Trooper has been working with other law enforcement agencies to step up enforcement. No restrictions have been placed on the committee on their recommendations i.e. Staffing. Other ordinances may be needed to assist in the achievement of these recommendations.

X. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Paulhus reported that he attended the Festival on the Green and that it was very successful.

Mayor Paterson announced that there were over 200 volunteers that assisted with this program held on September 19, due to the inclement weather on the

18th.

XI. TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

There is a Downtown Partnership meeting on October 5, 2004 at 1244 Storrs Road.

There is a Town/University Relations Committee Meeting on October 15, 2004 from 4-5:15pm

The DEP, as part of the state's Natural Heritage, Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program, has awarded Mansfield the grant to preserve the Dorwart Property.

The Town Manager handed out the list of STEAP Awards for Fiscal Year 2004-2005.

The Town Manager handed out a list of construction projects for the University also an article from the Daily Campus "freshman class best in UConn history".

Mr. Hawkins handed out the story in the Chronicle of September 27, 2004, about the police sting which arrested 8 at an UConn frat party.

XII. FUTURE AGENDAS

XIII. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

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9. Town Owned Land and Conservation Easements as of July 1, 2004

10.E. Paterson re: Town Representatives to Community-Campus Partnership on Substance Abuse

11.E. Paterson and M. Berliner re: Inmate Work Crew

12.E. Paterson and M. Berliner re: Accessible Mailbox

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Not needed.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:38 p.m. Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to adjourn the meeting.

So passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Joan E. Gerdson, Town Clerk

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